

Serial No. 08/988,172

Remarks:

Claims 83-99 have been amended, claims 83-99 are presented for examination.

Applicant wishes to express his gratitude to Examiner Tran for the granting of an official interview with applicant's representatives on November 15, 2000. As a result of that interview, it is believed that this application was advanced toward allowance. With this amendment, the claims are amended to conform to the agreement reached at the interview.

A Power of Attorney appointing Eugene M. Cummings, Registration No. 24,398 and David M. Mundt, Registration No. 41,207 as attorneys in this application is enclosed.

Also, without prejudice or disclaimer to the underlying subject matter, a Terminal Disclaimer disclaiming that portion of this patent which extends beyond the expiration of U.S. Patent No. 5,696,869 is enclosed. A Statement Under 37 CFR 3.73(b) accompanies the Terminal Disclaimer, and copies of the contemporaneously executed Assignment of Application and Recordation Form Cover Sheet are enclosed.

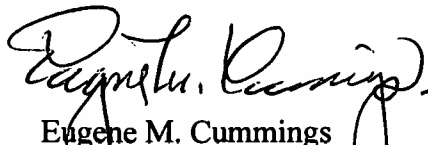
The appropriate fee is enclosed with this amendment. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the enclosed fee which may be required, or to credit any overpayment thereof to Deposit Account No. 50/1039.

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With this amendment all grounds for rejection are believed to be resolved, and it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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